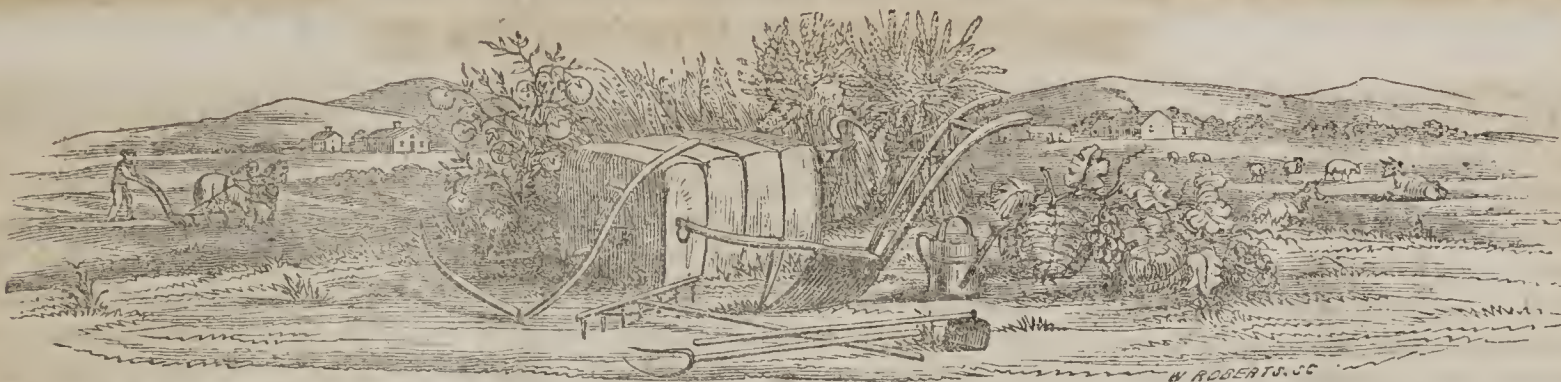


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FARMER AND PLANTER.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, MECHANICS, DOMESTIC AND RURAL ECONOMY.

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Address.

BY WILLIAM S. KING, MANTON, N. I.

(Continued from page 130.)

A fourth prejudice of farmers is against what are sneeringly denounced as NEW-FANGLED NOTIONS.

New-fangled notions! And why may not the new-fangled be as valuable as the old-fangled notions? Gentlemen, we make the manifest mistake of looking backward, toward the infancy of the world, for knowledge; and towards its darkness, for light. Does wisdom come of experience? We have the experience of all the farmers from Abel's day down to your President Nesmith's; and our own little stock, added thereto, to be handed down to our children. Does wisdom come of travel and observation? We can now with ease and comfort travel over a hundred miles of road where our forefathers with difficulty accomplished one. Does wisdom come

of reading? We have libraries of books, where our ancestors could boast of single volumes. And yet we prate, constantly, of the wisdom of our forefathers; and we denounce what they never had a chance of knowing, because it has not the aroma of antiquity about it. Gentlemen, I reverence age as much as any one; but if wisdom comes of age, on the heads of this generation are the hoar frosts of five thousand years; and we who now live, are the true, grey-bearded ANCIENTS!

We have thus more years to boast than our forefathers; we can acquire more knowledge by travel, and a comparison of notes than they, because of our increased facilities. We have all the learning of their day, and more, handed down to us; we have all their experience, with our own added lot; and yet we are told to regard these men—with their no more than equal intelligence and inferior privileges—as oracles. We don't ride to mill now as some of our grandfathers did, with the meal in one end of the sack, and, to balance it, a stone in the other. Why, then, should we keep up other of their antiquated notions? One of two things must we choose—either to acknowledge, with mortification, that the race of men has dwindled in intellect, or that the prejudices so prevalent against new-fangled notions, merely because they are new, and conflict with the experience of a gone generation—is absurd.

One more point, and I have done. We find prejudices at our firesides. The fond mother, who sees in the unfolding mind of her young son evidences of more than ordinary intellect, thinks that his talents will be thrown away, or hid under a bushel, if he is made a farmer of; and straightway determines, in her own mind, that her darling shall shine as a lawyer, or

"wag his jaw in a pulpit" The poet has said of woman, that

"When she will, *she will*, you may depend on't, And when she wont, *she wont*, and there's an end on't."

And those of us who have wives—all of us know how much of truth there is in the description!

Mr. President, I see the reproachful glances cast at me by the fairer portion of my audience, for this apt quotation, and I hasten to add that another poet, equally well versed in human nature, and of equal authority, writes thus:

"The lords of creation, men we call,
And they think they rule the whole;
But they're much mistaken, after all,
For they're under woman's control."

There is much of truth in both these descriptions.

But let me not, sir, while I occupy this responsible position, appear, even in jest, to undervalue woman! Man's first, last, best comforter on earth. Cradled upon her bosom and shielded in her protecting arms, we pass happily the helpless years of infancy. She is our guardian and guide in youth; the friend and faithful counsellor of our manhood; and our heavy head rests in death, as at birth, upon the true heart of woman!

Oh, Woman! your's is a noble destiny. To you is committed the charge of the generation to come. To know what the world will be when we are laid

"In the deep stillness of that dreamless state
Of sleep that knows no waking joys again!"
we need but to ask, "*What are the mothers, now.*" In your hands, for evil or for good, is (under God) the fate of the world. The old gnarled oak can be bent into no position but that in which the winds and the frosts of its youth have left it; but the tender twig, hereafter to be, perhaps, the

vessel, leaving the silex at the bottom, and allowed to settle gradually. The nature of the deposit can then be examined, and may be found to be clay, lime, vegetable mould, etc. The character of this sediment and the proportion it bears to the silex or pure sand may also be estimated with some accuracy. Portions of the soluble matter, however, may be dissolved in the water, and only general results, therefore, can be reached by any such process. The evaporation of the water is one step onward towards accuracy, and may sometimes be desirable. The addition of an acid to the solution may, also, determine with certainty as to the presence of lime and other alkaline bases, by the presence or absence of effervescence when the acid is poured into it.

Some sandy soils produce good wheat. For this, there should be from fifty to eighty per cent. of clay, ten or twenty per cent. of lime, and a similar proportion of *humus*, or vegetable mould.

Some sandy soils contain over ninety per cent. of silex. These, of course, must be extremely barren. But although sixty or seventy per cent. may be silex, if clay is present in considerable quantities, with some lime and vegetable matter, decent crops may be obtained.

This view points out the mode of determining what is required by a "sandy soil." It will, however, be perfectly safe to apply bone manures, and other forms of lime mixtures, in connection with barnyard manure. Bones supply not only lime, but phosphorous, which is often wanting in soils from which wheat and other grains have been gathered.

The best manure for soils is found in the compost-heap. Peat, turf, weeds, etc., mingled with ashes or bones treated previously with acid, and with barnyard manure, will be found very effective. If clay can be had conveniently, this, too, should be added. Ten loads of stable-manure, five to ten loads of clay, thirty bushels of ashes, and ten bushels of lime may be mixed together. It should be allowed to remain a few weeks before it is applied to the land. These proportions may be varied according to the condition of the soil. It is also of great service to sandy land to haul clay upon it in the fall. After it is spread over the surface, the frosts of winter will prepare it for the plow in the spring. This stratum and proper cultivation will secure a thorough mingling among these elements, after which the addition of the manures described (omitting the clay, perhaps) will

insure an ample return for the labor and cost bestowed upon it.

But, better than this, most sandy soils have a clay subsoil. This may be plowed up, and by proper cultivation mixed with the sand, without the cost of transportation.

From the Mobile Tribune.
Grass for the South.

COLUMBUS, Ga., July 28.

Messrs. McGuire, Ballentine, & Co.:—You will see an article in the *Soil of the South* for August, about foreign grass, the seed of which I have climatised, which I respectfully ask you to republish in your valuable journal, should you feel so disposed. I do in all candor assure you that there is no humbug in this matter, as actual experiment for three years has proved its value over any other in every respect. As you say in your issue of the 26th inst. "It remains to be seen who in the South will prove himself such a benefactor to the farmers and planters" in discovering the kind of grass adapted to the soil and climate, &c. I feel that I am warranted in saying that for the South, and for grazing through six months of the year, and for reclaiming exhausted fields, and rendering us independent of the North in the article of hay, this grass will do the work. I neglected to state in my article in the *Soil of the South* that this grass does not spread or run so as to make it difficult to be gotten rid of.

This grass grows like wheat or barley, and can be as easily destroyed. It goes to seed in June; sheds the seed which are over abundant (by which I mean their immense quantity), falling and covering the ground with a dense mass of foliage, and the seed lies all summer, till the last of September, ad infinitum. When the seed come up in the fall it is easily destroyed by ploughing up, should it be desirable to do so. It grows very rapidly, and no grass is more nutritious, and upon very rich land, or land made so by manure (particularly guano), I believe it will yield from four to six tons of hay per acre. I know that horses, mules and cattle prefer it to the best Northern; and but for the cotton, which requires attention at the time of saving hay (to wit: June), this grass would render saving corn fodder entirely useless, and would take the place of it. But fodder can be saved when the labor can be well spared; so I doubt the practicability of its taking its place; yet this is not the fault of the grass.

This grass has the following claims to our attention: 1st. it is never injured by

the greatest cold; no freeze hurts it at all. 2d. it stands the heat of our summer's sun. 3d. it is uninjured, and unretarded by heavy rains, overflows, or ordinary drought. 4th. sowed in September, it is ready for grazing in November. 5th. it will graze horses, cattle, mules, sheep, hogs, goats and chickens from November to June, stock being then turned off, it will (6th) yield as much hay per acre as the clover or timothy of the North; or the blue grass of Kentucky in quantity, quality and weight. 7th. it does not spread or run, so as to be difficult to be gotten rid of. 8th, it will do well in any soil in the South. 9. It will reclaim worn out fields; and 10th, it requires to be sown but once, ever afterwards reproducing itself ad infinitum. For sheep, it is invaluable, and as a winter-grazing and soiling grass unequalled. You justly remark, "we are now more in need of fodder and green food than anything else on our farms."—If this grass don't supply it, then it is useless to try any further.

Should persons in your section desire to get seed they can write me postpaid, so I can enter their names, and next year will send the seed, and my mode of cultivating it. I do not think it necessary for any person to order more than one peck, as that will produce seed enough to sow several acres the second year. My price will be \$5 a peck, put up in cotton bags, and I pledge myself to return the price if it don't come up to what I say; certainly, that is fair. You are at liberty to publish this letter if you think proper, as I feel that every farmer and planter, and, indeed, every person in the South who owns a cow, should have it and use it.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient serv't.

B. V. IVERSON.

The following is Mr. Iverson's letter to the *Soil of the South*:

The Rescue Grass.

Gentlemen:—I have seen and read a letter from Mr. Wm. S. Lewis, of Red River, near Shreveport, addressed to one of you, and published in the July number of your very interesting and valuable journal, in which Mr. L. asks for information about red clover as a grazing grass for stock, &c. I know very little about any kind clover, but I profess to know something about a kind of grass which I am satisfied will suit Mr. L., and that too in latitude 32 40. I read Mr. L.'s communication with interest as in fact I do all recitals of southern effort to make the South independent of every other people.

Why should we pay "tribute" to any set of men for articles which we can and should produce at home? Very few of us have any idea of the immense sum which is paid by the (oh, unfortunate) South, annually to the North, for the single article of hay. It is enormous, and yet is but one drain. It seems to me that if there is any one thing greatly needed by us, in an agricultural way, it is the possession of a grass, by every Southern planter, which would reclaim his worn-out land, graze and improve his scrubby stock, and render the South independent of the North now and forever in the matter of hay. I am aware that many have tried of late years (and they deserve the thanks of all) to get a foreign grass acclimated, which would stand our winter's cold and our summer's heat; a grass which would graze stock from November to June, and would then yield as good hay as timothy, clover, or the blue grass of Kentucky.

But as yet their success has not been equal to their zeal. We have, it is true, many grasses, most of them valuable no-doubt, yet the experiment with them has failed to drive Northern hay out of southern markets. We are still "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Now, in order to succeed; in order to stop this heavy out-lay; in order to keep our money at home to help educate our children; build our churches; open our rail roads; clear up and improve our lands, and do a great many other good things, we must have a grass that will yield as much to the acre; it must be as certain a crop, and it must be as nutritious as theirs. Is it possible for us to obtain such a grass? I answer, yes, I have the seed of a foreign grass (now acclimated to the South) which is never injured by our severest cold; which stands our summer's heat; which is neither injured or retarded by heavy rains, overflows or ordinary droughts; which will graze horses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats, hogs and poultry, from November to June; which will then yield as much hay per acre, in quantity, quality and weight, and which is as nutritious as timothy, clover, or the blue grass of Kentucky. Seed which will produce a grass outgrowing millet or lucerne; which will do well in any kind of soil in the South, which will reclaim worn out fields, and which will require to be sown but once, ever after producing itself, ad infinitum. It is an annual, and the roots die in the same way as wheat and rye. On very rich land, it grows from three to four feet high, is easily cradled, and stock prefer it to the best Northern hay.

From actual experiments, made for the last three years, I know this grass will answer the above ends. I shall have the seed for sale during the next year, as I shall seed down one hundred acres this September.

Persons who may wish to procure this seed, can address me at Columbus, Ga., post paid, stating the quantity wanted, when the price will be given, with the mode of its cultivation. With every wish, gentlemen, for your success, I remain your friend and fellow citizen,

B. V. IVERSON.

N. B.—Those of the South who may be fond of rich milk, yellow butter, and tender beefsteaks, to such I say, this is the grass to make them; and what a blessing for poor cows during the cold and wintry months!

Finally, I must beg to say to your correspondent, Mr. L., that for the rich bottoms of Red River, he need only to procure this seed, and he and his descendants may laugh at any body who should name to him or them anything about red clover for stock grazing, or indeed any other clover in latitude 35.40.

In some future number, if permitted, I will show how this grass will reclaim the poorest of the poor, worn-out washed, robbed and butchered of our fields and make them produce good crops again; and that it will be wholly unnecessary hereafter to save corn fodder as food for horses, mules or cattle, by those who will take the trouble to sow it. I have named it "the Rescue Grass" of the South.

B. V. I.

Food of Plants.

BY L. CHANDLER BALL.

All that portion of plants which disappears in burning, is derived from the atmosphere and from water—only the small quantity which remains in the form of ash, is obtained from the soil. This ash is composed of silex, iron, lime, potash, soda, magnesia, sulphur, phosphorus and chlorine.

These substances exist in all plants, and being essential to their growth and perfect maturity, must of necessity be contained in all fertile soils.

By a wise provision of nature, these mineral ingredients are diffused with few exceptions over the whole earth, in the quantities and small proportions required for the spontaneous production of an almost endless variety of shrubs and trees.

Whenever vegetation is suffered to decay and mingle with the ground on which it grew, these earthly matters are returning to the soil, which in that case suf-

fers no deterioration, but is on the contrary enriched by the annual deposit of vegetable mould. But when the vegetation is removed as is the case with the cultivated grains, grasses and fruits, a certain portion of the soil is taken away.

Even in the most fertile soils, the whole quantity of earthy matter which is necessary to the growth of plants, is only about 14 per cent. while some of the most important, like potash, sulphur and phosphorus, do not reach to more than half of one per cent.

If therefore the produce of the soil is annually removed without any provision for restoring the earthy matter thus taken away, the quantity will in a few years be so nearly exhausted as to be below the amount required for the growth of farm crops, and if longer continued, barrenness will be the inevitable result.

Let every farmer see that the fertility of his lands is maintained, by an application of mineral manures equal to the annual loss by tillage.—*Indiana Farmer.*

From the Farmers' Companion.

Seed Wheat.

We would call the attention of our wheat growers to the following novel idea, started by Eusebus Weston, of Bloomfield, Me., in the Patent Office Report for 1850. It appears to have escaped the notice of the editors of our periodicals—and no wonder with such a worthless index as the volume contains—but we think it decidedly deserving of attention, and experimenting upon; especially in the western country where so much wheat is sown.—It is not often that we can learn anything practical from eastern farmers, but this may prove an exception.

"It has been suspected for a long time that our seed was in fault, at least for a part of the deplorable deficiency in the wheat crop. I could not see why a flour mill cleanser should not be the best thing to prepare wheat for sowing till an experienced miller told me it would kill one half of it. Reflecting on this fact, I was led to see what effect the common threshing mill would have, when many kernels are broken in the operation. These suggestions have been experimented upon, and it is found, on repeated trials of samples sown in common saucers and broadcast in the ground, that one-fourth or more of the largest kernels are killed and never germinate, and some will produce a shoot and no root—the root sprout being killed by the machine. This accounts, in some measure, for our wheat coming up thick enough, but shortly becoming thin.

Many kernels, from native strength, shoot up, but having no roots, die.

In our flour mills may be seen the caps of the root sprout, blown out by the blower or fan, under the hopper, by quarts at a time, besides that which is blown out above. One farmer told me he had tried the experiment by accidentally having a barrel of wheat threshed by hand, and sown with another barrel threshed by a machine, and the difference was at least one quarter. Thus it is seen that at least one quarter of the seed is killed by the machine for threshing; and then the whole is run through an ordinary fanning mill, all together, and sown from the mass.—We raise our wheat, year after year, from about three quarters of the seed sown, and that of the poorest quality; the best and fullest being killed. Now to my mind, this is enough to account for the diminution of the wheat crop from 20 to 30 down to from 5 to 12 bushels. No seed on earth could stand such a test. Formerly, the wheat was threshed with flail, and winnowed in the north-west wind, and then the seed taken carefully from the north-west corner of the pile, so that very little was sown except the first order of kernels. Some even went so far as to select heads of the largest and best growth by pulling them from the sheaves. A gentleman, who tried the last experiment, had a quart of wheat, which was sowed on a corner of the field; and he assures me that he could see the difference in the grain: 40 or 50 rods, the plants being a darker green, broader leaf and taller growth. If this be so, it is high time that it was attended to. Which of our intelligent readers will experiment upon it this fall, trying wheat selected by hand, threshed by flail, and by machine, equal quantities of each, sown side by side, and report to us the result? In 1850, over 500,000 bushels of wheat were probably sown in Michigan. We have not at hand the statistics of the other western states, yet if this statement is correct, not only were more than 100,000 bushels of wheat thrown away in one State, but the next crop was much diminished.

There is said to be a strange disease among the fall wheat in Wisconsin.—However well and thick it may look in the fall, it dies and dries up in the spring, leaving the field bare. May not this alleged fact, in part, account for what is otherwise so difficult to explain?

Hints on Breeding Horses.

1. "Like will produce like." The progeny will inherit the qualities or the mingled qualities of the parents.

2. There is scarcely a disease by which either of the parents may be effected that the foal will not inherit, or at least the predisposition to it. The temper is generally taken from the mare.

3. Peculiarities of form and constitution of both parents will also be inherited.—However good may be the sire, every good point will be neutralized or lost by the defective form or want of blood of the mare.

4. The excellence, health, and age of the mare are points of quite as much importance as that of the horse. Out of a poor mare, let the horse be as perfect as he may, a good horse will rarely be produced.

5. The mare's carcass should be long and well-rounded, to give room for the growth of the foetus, and yet with this, there should be compactness of form and shortness of leg. The shorter the leg from the knee to the hoof, the faster and more valuable the animal will be.

6. A mare should always be comparatively larger than the horse. The reverse will produce long legged, narrow chested animals. This is a rule in the good breeding of all sorts of stock. An overgrown male is always objectionable.

7. The chief point to be considered in the horse is compactness, as much goodness and strength as possible, condensed in a little space. Next to this, the inclination of the shoulders should be regarded. A huge horse, with upright shoulders never got really valuable stock except for heavy draught.

8. For a month or two before foaling, the mare should be allowed somewhat better food, and, if worked at all, moderately and slowly.

9. As soon as she has foaled, she should be turned into a well sheltered pasture and taken in during storms. If the grass is scanty she should have two feeds of good bran or grain daily. Nothing is gained by starving and stinting the foal at this time.

10. Let the foal eat grain with its mother as soon as it will do so.

11. In five or six months, the foal must be weaned; and put into a barn where it can get shelter or into a loose stable.—Its food ought to be increased in goodness, and a feed daily of bran, mixed with oats, made into a mash with warm, (not hot) water, the first week or two will produce a good effect. An ounce of salt should be mixed with each mash.

12. There is no principle of greater importance than the liberal feeding of the

foal during the whole of its growth, and at this time in particular. Bruised oats, corn and bran, in about equal proportions, should form a considerable part of its daily food. Clover hay is better for it than timothy hay, and better still if it is cut and mixed with grain. The colt should have room to move about, but be always sheltered in cold and stormy weather. If possible, give it roots occasionally during the winter.

13. The process of breaking in should commence from the very period of weaning. The foal should be daily handled, partially dressed, accustomed to the halter, led about and even tied up, the tractability, good temper, and value of the horse, depend more on this than most farmers are aware of.—*Farmers' Companion.*

Propagating Fruit Trees.—In China they have a common method of propagating several kinds of fruit trees, which of late years have been practised with considerable success in Bengal. The method is simply this: They strip a ring of bark about an inch in width, from a bearing branch, and surround the place with a ball of fat earth or loam, bound fast to the branch with a piece of matting: over this they suspend a pot, or horn, with water, having a small hole in the bottom, just sufficient to let the water drop, in order to keep the earth constantly moist. The branch throws new roots into the earth, just above the place where the rind was stripped off. The operation is performed in the spring, and the branch is sawn off and put into the ground at the fall of the leaf. The following year it bears fruit.—*Barrow's Travels in China.*

A Hint for House-keepers.—While giving to housekeepers the advice jotted down while attending to the very important matter of house-cleaning, and the like arrangements, do not omit to inform housekeepers that a few drops of carbonate of ammonia, in a small quantity of warm rain water, will prove a safe and easy anti-acid, &c., and will change if carefully applied, discolored spots on carpets, and indeed all spots, whether produced by acids or alkalies. If one has the misfortune to have a carpet injured by white-wash, this will immediately restore it.—*Ohio Cultivator.*

To take out Fruit Spots.—Let the spotted part of the cloth absorb some water without dipping; hold the part over a lighted common brimstone match, at a proper distance. The sulphurous gas which is discharged causes the spot to disappear.

Age of Sheep—How Determined.—The age of sheep, may be known by their front teeth. They are eight in number and appear all of a size. In the second year the middle ones fall out, and their place is supplied by two large ones. In the third year, a small tooth on each side falls out. In the fourth year the large teeth are six in number. In the fifth year the whole front teeth are large. In the sixth year the whole begin to get worn. In the seventh year the whole fall out, or are broken. It is said that the teeth of ewes begin to decay at five or six; those of weathers at seven.

Plants in Bed Rooms.—Some persons are so fond of odoriferous plants and flowers as to have them in their bed-chambers.—This is a very dangerous practice at night, many of them being so powerful as to overcome the senses entirely. Even plants not in flower, and without smell, injure the air at night, and in absence of the sun, by impregnating it with nitrogen and carbonic acid gas. A melancholy proof of this as recorded by Dr. Curry, occurred at Leighton, Buzzard, in Bedfordshire. Mr. Sheerbrook having frequently had his pinery robbed, the gardener determined to sit up and watch. He accordingly posted himself, with a loaded fowling piece, in the green-house where it is supposed he fell asleep, and in the morning was found dead upon the ground, with all the appearances of suffocation, evidently occasioned by the discharge of mephitic gas from the plants during the night. Instances of men having slept in the woods during the night, and being found dead in the morning are common.—*Ex.*

Root Crops---Parsnips.

There is a very marked change visible among the farmers of our vicinity, in the greater attention given to root crops. Upon almost every farm, there may be seen a piece of land devoted to the growing of mangel-wurtzel, ruta bagas, or carrots.—Sometimes all these may be seen side by side. This piece of land is large or small as is the faith of the cultivator in the utility of the crop. But most are trying the experiment.

We regard this as a favorable indication, as we believe that economy in feeding and kindness to animals alike dictate that roots should form a portion of the feed of stock during the long winter months, when green food can be obtained in this way.

Ruta bagas, mangel wurtzels, and carrots have been thoroughly proved as profitable crops. We would call the atten-

tion of the readers of the Farmer, to the fact that the parsnip is superior to the carrot as a flesh forming article of food, and equal to the mangel wurtzel. This has not been generally so considered. The carrot has been considered as the superior article of diet. Prof. Voelcker, of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, has made careful analyses of these two roots, and has thereby determined that the parsnip is the most nutritious.

If this is so, the parsnip may be advantageously cultivated with the other roots. It is easily kept if harvested in the fall; and may be left in the ground until Spring with impunity, thus saving the trouble and expense of storage during the winter.

We give the analyses of Prof. Voelcker, with some remarks from the Farmers' Companion.—*Granite Farmer.*

PARSNIPS contain,		Per cent.
Water		82.050
Ash		0.932
Nitrogenized organic substances, capable of producing flesh		1.280
Substances fitted for the support of animal heat and the formation of fat		15.733
		100.00
CARROTS contain		Per cent.
Water		82.260
Ash		0.745
Nitrogenized organic substances, capable of producing flesh,		.596
Substances fitted for the support of animal heat and the formation of fat		10.399
		100.00
Ash of Parsnip (Voelck)		Ash of Carrot (Way)
Per cent.		Per cent.
Potash	36.12	32.44
Soda	3.11	13.52
Magnesia	9.94	3.96
Lime	11.42	8.33
Phosphoric acid	18.66	8.55
Sulphuric acid	6.50	6.55
Silica	4.10	1.19
Phosphat of iron	3.71	Peroxide of iron 1.10
Chl'de of sodium	5.54	6.50
Carbonic acid		17.30

1. There is a general resemblance in the composition of both roots.

2. Parsnips, however, differ from the carrot chiefly by containing less sugar; the deficiency of which is replaced by starch, not occurring in carrots.

3. White Belgian carrots (the best field variety) generally contains from 5 to 6 per cent. more water than parsnips. Thus, fresh carrots contain on an average 12

per cent. of solid substance, while parsnips contain as much as 18 per cent. In their natural state, therefore, parsnips will be found much more nutritious than carrots.

4. The nutritive value of parsnips, in so far as it is dependent on the production of flesh forming constituents which are found in the root, according to the above results appear to be greater than that of carrots. While fresh parsnips contain 1.30 per cent., and dry 7.26 per cent. of flesh forming constituents. Belgian carrots were found to contain only 0.612 per cent. of the same natural state. Compared with other crops, parsnips are about as rich in albuminous (flesh forming) compounds as mangolds, and ought, therefore, to go as far as mangolds in producing flesh.

5. Parsnips, richer in flesh forming compounds than carrots, also contain more nitrogen in the form of ammoniacal salts; and therefore, when eaten the dung forms a richer manure for wheat.

Thus, on the whole, parsnips appear to possess greater value than white Belgian carrots as a feeding or fattening material. Parsnips are indeed very valuable as an article of food; they are liked by cattle; and highly esteemed by Continental farmers for fattening stock. Moreover, they stand the frost better than any other root crop, and keep well for a long time, as they contain less water than almost any other root crop usually cultivated in England."

Try the Experiment.

The *Albany Cultivator* contains the following suggestion, which we commend to the attention of our farmers.

There has been no saying oftener repeated, and none more worthy of repetition, so far as farm economy is concerned, than "A place for everything, and everything in its place." One of the best modes for every farmer to apply this rule in practice is, to make a complete list of all his implements, from his wagons, carts and plows, down to awls, gimblets and screw-drivers. Let every implement be immediately returned to its place after using, no matter however inconvenient this may be, instead of throwing it on the ground till forgotten, with the intention of replacing it as soon as a favorable moment occurs to do so.

Now, if any one is unprepared to adopt this plan, we would recommend the following experiment, in order to reduce its merits to the test of accurate figuring:—Let him keep an accurate record of all the time lost in one year by hunting for lost tools in times of emergency, adding in the

losses occasioned by keeping other persons or teams in waiting, while the search is in progress, and also adding the waste occasioned by the consequent exposure of the tools to the weather or by finally losing them—and not forgetting to estimate the detriment to his crops and farming operations generally, by the delay thus frequently occasioned. (He may, likewise, if he chooses, keep an account current of the vexation caused by these frequent annoyances—unless he is so far gone that disorder and delay are matters of indifference to him).

We have no doubt that such an experiment as this faithfully followed out, would greatly surprise him at the end of the year and furnish satisfactory proof of the immense superiority of the plan first proposed by us. Who will be willing to give *both* ways a full trial?

The Hog "Crop"—Profits of Making—Measuring Corn, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As an evidence that we can better afford to make than buy our own pork, I send you the following statement. On the 22d of December, 1851, my sow dropped ten pigs. They were fed during the winter on say ten bushels of corn and peas—peas boiled. In the early part of the summer they had a few carrots—afterwards they had only the run of the oat stubble, and a few peaches, until I commenced feeding them in July or August. Wishing to try a plan which appeared perhaps in the *Southern planter*, and was copied into the *Soil of South*, I commenced feeding with green corn, stalks and all. This gave them a start to grow, and put them in a thrifty state. After corn ripened, I fed corn in the ear, until the pigs were killed, except two weeks, when they had the run of the peas, gathering their own food. Nine of the pigs were killed December 11, 1852, lacking twelve days of being a year old, and weighed as follows:—186, 192, 160, 142, 184, 150, 156, 166, 172—aggregate, 1,508 lbs.—average, about 168. Now, for cost: nine bushels corn and peas, \$9, carrots and green corn, \$3; 90 bushels corn \$45—total, \$57. This is making slaughtered clean pork at a cost of less than four cents per pound, with the common native stock, with high priced food in the beginning, and by a young farmer. I do not include in the cost the gleanings of the oats and peas, because without the hogs they would have been wasted, but I think I put the fattening corn at rather too high a figure—ten bushels per head. My limited

experience is in favor of killing hogs young. Never keep them through two winters.—“A short life and a merry one,” is good hog philosophy.

The following is my rule for measuring ear corn in the crib. Multiply together the inside length, breadth and depth, in feet, or feet and fractions of a foot; then multiply this product by 4, and cut off the right hand figure, for dividing by 10. The reason of the rule is this: a cubic foot contains 1728 cubic inches, and a bushel contains 2150.4 inches. Now, if the cubic feet of the crib (found by multiplying together the length, breadth and depth), be multiplied by 1728, and divided by 2150.4, we shall have the number of bushels of *shelled* corn or wheat that the crib will hold. But 1728 bears the same proportion to 2150.4, as 4 does to 5 very nearly. So that multiplying the *cubic feet* by 4, and dividing by 10, answers the same purpose as multiplying by 1728, and dividing by 2150.4, and then taking half for the cob. If the corn is very good, with deep grains, or the crib holds over 500 bushels, I would divide by 9 instead of 10.

In conclusion, let me inquire of you and your correspondents what rule will do for measuring *unshucked* corn in a crib or pen? Also, how many pounds of peas in the hull will thresh out a bushel? Respectfully,

V. M. BARNES.

Winfield, Ga., May, 3853.

Measuring Corn—Another Suggestion.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I noticed in your last number an article on measuring cribs of corn. I have noticed other articles on this subject, but have as yet seen none satisfactory to my mind. True we can divide the number of cubic inches in a crib by 2150.25—the number of cubic inches in a Winchester bushel. But how are we to establish any conventional rule as to the deduction to be made for the shucks, cobs, &c. If the corn be closely slip-shucked some rule might be established—but how are we to determine this in many instances? It seems to me there are insuperable difficulties in establishing an absolute rule on the subject.

As the object of your journal is to extend the area of useful knowledge, I beg leave to suggest (if it has not been done before) the following.

Divide the number of cubic inches in your crib by the number of cubic inches in a box, say 2 by 3 feet, and measure the box; after having shelled out, multiply the quantity it contains by the quotient arising from the above division.

Marshall, Texas, May, 1853.]

TEXAS.

And here we have another suggestion from one of our Mississippi correspondents:—

To Measure a Corn Crib full of Shucked Corn in the Ear.

Find the solid contents in feet, by measuring the length, breadth and height of the crib, thus—10 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 10 feet high; then multiply the length, breadth and height, and multiply the whole by 8, and cut off the two right hand figures—this will give you the barrels and decimels of a barrel of shelled corn in a crib.

Example: 10

10

100

10

1000

8

80.00 Ans. 80 bush. shelled corn.

This rule is a substitute of the decimal 08 for the vulgar fraction 1728-21500ths. to which it is a near approximation. The solid feet in a crib multiplied by 1728, (the solid inches in a foot) and the product is divided by 2150, the solid inches (rejecting 2-5 of an inch in a Winchester bushel). This shows the contents of a bushel; divided by 5, the number of bushels in a barrel, gives the number of barrels of corn in the ear. And as too barrels of ear corn are supposed to be equal to one barrel of shelled corn, the quantity of the latter may be expressed by multiplying the solid feet of the crib by the compound fraction 1-2 of 1-5 of 1728-1150ths which is equal to 8-100 very nearly. Those who wish to be more exact may add two bushels and two gallons for each hundred barrels.

MECKLENBURG,

Of Panola County Miss.

Remedy for Cancer.—Col. E. Ussery, of the parish of DeSoto, informs the editors of the *Caddo Gazette*, that he has fully tested a remedy for this tiresome disease, recommended to him by a Spanish woman, a native of the country. The remedy is this: Take an egg and break it, put it in salt and mix with the yolk as long as it will receive it, stir them together until the salve is formed: put a portion of this on a piece of sticking plaster, and apply it to the cancer about twice a day. He has tried the remedy twice in his own family with complete success.

From the New England Farmer.

Cruelty to Animals.

I would not enter on my list of friends,
(Though graced with polished manners and
fine sense,
Yet wanting sensibility,) the man
Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm.

COWPER.

He who knowingly would injure the harmless creatures God has made, can have little feeling for human kind. Injury to creatures may sometimes be done by accident, or through necessity. Such acts "incur no blame." But he who, for the sake of gratifying his own passions, cruelly treats those animals God has placed here for the benefit and service of man, is justly deserving no claims to humanity. It is not the man who beats with a goad his ox or his horse, that may be called the most cruel or unmerciful; for he who neglects to provide for the comfort and health of his dumb creatures is equally censurable. But in most cases it is pretty true that he who is guilty of the one act, is equally guilty of the other. I have reason to believe, however, that a greater degree of kindness is shown towards dumb animals now than formerly—that less beating and bruising is resorted to in the training of young horses or oxen; yet there are many who still adhere to former customs, although late discoveries and observations prove that gentle means and mild measures may be more *satisfactorily* used towards subduing the brute creation. The "whip for the horse" will be but unfrequently used if the hand that plies it is associated with a kind and feeling heart. However great a reformation has been made in the mode of training animals to service, too harsh measures are still used.

The horse, the most noble of all animals used by man, is the most cruelly treated. Even in the present state of civilization, I presume not one horse in five is treated in such a manner as that he lives out the term of his natural life. My opinion is, that if this animal were properly reared for, and kindly treated, he would be in as fit condition to labor at the age of twenty, as he now is, with present treatment, at twelve. Very few horses at the present day ever arrive at the latter age in good condition, with soundness in body and limb. Hard labor and improper care render him unfit for service at an early age. The constitution of the horse is very similar to the constitution of man, hence the former is no more fitted to bear excessive labor and unkind treatment than the latter. It is as injurious to the constitution

of the horse to keep him at labor in stormy weather, as it is injurious to man; hence it is as necessary for a teamster (if he would provide for the health and comfort of his team) to use the same care for them that he does for himself.

There is one cruel act of which too many are guilty, and about which I cannot forbear speaking. I have reference to the practice of putting off horses which have become unfit for service, in consequence of old age, to cruel and inhuman persons. Although horses thus put off have served their masters faithfully, and doubly paid, perhaps, for all they have ever received, yet still, for the sake of a few paltry dollars, they are sold to those who will cruelly treat them to the last moments of their existence. It appears to me that the man who will thus part with his horse, is as virtually cruel, as he who abuses him after he has him in his possession. Is it not more an act of mercy to take the life outright, of a worn out beast, than to dispose of him to an individual who will kill by degrees?

I have never been the owner of but one horse, and although he is considerably on the down-hill side of life, money would not tempt me to part with him, unless I felt sure he was going into the hands of a merciful man. I have respect for the aged; and verily kindness is actually due those animals whose services are so beneficial to mankind.

Who would see an aged father or mother (whose lives had been spent for their children) turned off with hard usage and unkind treatment, because the infirmities of age had rendered them unfit for service? Of course the kinder treatment is their due, in consideration of what they have been, and what they have done.

Cruelty to animals is a subject deserving especial attention. Parents ought to make it a point of duty to train their children to be merciful to animals, as well as to human. If this were more generally done, certain it is there would not be so many unfeeling and cruel men. The boy who is suffered to grow up with the privilege of inflicting pain upon every animal that comes in his way, is pretty sure to be a cruel and hard master, over whom and whatever he has the control.

"Mercy to him that shows it, is the rule
And righteous limitation of its act. [man.
By which heaven moves in pard'ning guilty
And he that shows none, being ripe in years,
And conscious of the outrage he commits,
Shall seek it and not find it in his turn."

A. TODD.

Smithfield, R. I., 2d Mo., 1853.

Horses---Careful Use of, &c.

An acquaintance lost his horse, a few days ago, in a manner that would suggest an habitual caution in driving. The horse, a valuable one, well kept, in good spirits, and in perfect health, was taken from the stable and driven. He had ascended a long and hard hill within the first mile of driving, and as soon as the summit was reached, the driver, as is the habit of many, touched him with the whip; he sprang, stopped, staggered and fell, and by the time the driver could alight from the carriage, he was dead. An examination showed that a large blood-vessel near the heart had been ruptured. No appearance of disease could be detected.

Now, there would be, in the same circumstances, always a danger of a similar occurrence. Especially if the stomach should happen to be filled, as it would be directly after a full meal.

Every increase of the muscular action of any animal produces an increase in the rapidity of the circulation of the blood. This arises from two causes, one mechanical, as the compression of the blood-vessels by the muscular contraction; and one physical, as the necessity for the more rapid purification of the blood in a period of exercise.

Physiology teaches that every muscular action is attended with a waste of the material of the body, as in galvanic action when zinc is used in the circuit, at each period of action, portions of the zinc are destroyed. This waste portion of the animal solid goes into the blood and must be discharged mainly from the blood in the lungs. The more violent the muscular action, the more of this waste matter is given to the blood, and this once loaded with it is useless until it has been purified in the lungs. Consequently the blood is sent to the lungs in a vastly increased current, and the breathing becomes more rapid to introduce large portions of air to the blood in the lungs. Here, then, are increased quantities of air in the lungs at the same time, producing a state of fulness, if the lungs have full play. But if the stomach is full and pressing upon the cavity of the lungs, it is easy to see that a great pressure of blood in the lungs and the great cavities of the heart must take place. Almost every person has experienced the sharp pain and distress produced by this state of things, after having run a little way sharply, not being accustomed to the exercise. It is not difficult to see how, in this crowded state of the vessels, a sudden and powerful muscular

exertion should cause a rupture of some one of the distended vessels.

When a rupture of a blood vessel does not result, oftentimes so much injury is done to the delicate membrane of the air cells as to produce an incurable heaves.

We were early taught this lesson of care in driving, by an old stage proprietor, of whom we once had a pair of horses for a journey. "The only caution," said he, "I care to give you about driving, is never to start quick from the top of a hill you have just ascended. If you do you may spoil the horses' wind."—*Granite Farmer*.

From the Charleston Standard.

The Guano Experiment of Mr. A. P. Lacoste.

The Cheraw Gazette gives a highly favorable notice of Mr. Lacoste's experiment in the use of Guano, and as it leaves no doubt of the great value of that article to the ordinary, and even poor lands, we have determined to lay before our readers the facts stated by the Gazette, and also certain other particulars, which we have elicited ourselves. Mr. Lacoste's plantation is of the common pine land, about three miles from Cheraw. The subsoil is clay, about eight or ten inches under a sandy loam. The Guano and gypsum were applied in the drill to 100 acres of land, at the rate of 200 pounds of Guano and 100 of gypsum to the acre. The former cost \$46 per ton in New York, and the latter \$2 per barrel of 250 pounds. With the freight added, the cost of the Guano and gypsum was a little less than five dollars and a half per acre. Now for the result: Mr. Lacoste is satisfied that the land, without manure, would not produce more than 700 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, and that, with the Guano, it will produce 1200 pounds. Three gentlemen, of good judgment in such cases, lately rode over and estimated the crop, each making his own observations, without conference with the others. Their average estimate, including sixty-five acres, to which no Guano had been applied, was 977 pounds to the acre. This sixty-five acres had been manured from the stable and barnyard, but the cotton thereon was by no means equal in the size of bolls, general appearance, etc., to that of the 100 acres to which the Guano had been applied. If, as they suppose, this 100 acres shall produce an average of 1200 pounds to the acre, then 500 thereof may be placed to the account of the Guano. This 500 pounds of seed cotton, at ordinary rates, would be worth \$12 50,

from which, deducting \$5 50, the cost of the manure, leaves a clear profit of \$7 per acre arising from the use of Guano. To this the value of the cotton seed should be added, which, properly applied, will insure an abundant corn crop the next year. Further profit, also, might be secured, by making the cotton rows five feet wide, thus giving room for the weed to spread, and so materially diminishing the labor of working the crop.

Mr. Lacoste works, in cotton, this year, 165 acres with eleven hands; the product will probably exceed a hundred and fifty bales—over twelve bales to the hand. He planted no corn, having made enough last year to supply his plantation for two years. He has ordered 25 tons of Guano for the next year, and intends to apply it to all his cotton lands, and devote only the cotton seed to his corn land. The Peruvian agent at New York thinks the supply of Guano for the next year will be abundant, as a large number of vessels to California expect to load with Guano on their return. As the cost of bringing from New York to Charleston is about \$2 per ton, it becomes important to all in reach of port, to get it here direct from Peru. Our inquiries, thus far, induced the belief that the demand would well warrant the Peruvian Government in establishing an agent here for its sale. He could sell thousands of tons for the use of this State, Georgia and North Carolina. A single planter, A. Scarborough, Esq., of Marion, has used, this year, about sixty tons. Others have tried it in smaller quantities, who will be induced to extend their operations next year. We hope, therefore, that information and exertion may be concentrated on this point, so that all within reach of our port may be saved from the unnecessary extra freight from New York.

From the Unionville Journal.

The Agricultural Association of the Slave-Holding States.

"This newly organized body will hold its next meeting on some day in November, at Columbia, S. C. We hope that proper steps will be taken, by the friends of agricultural improvement, to secure a large attendance of delegates from all parts of the State, and would suggest that the different Districts and Parishes of the State, as well as Agricultural Societies, take such steps as will ensure full delegations."

We clip the above from that spirited journal the Southern Agriculturist, and trust that our brethren of the press will do all in their power to wake up the agri-

cultural community to the importance of feeling some interest in their own improvements. We have not learned the first principles of association at the South, and a little study of the wonders worked by such things among our Northern brethren might not be amiss. Albeit we would be far from wishing to see it prostituted, as it is too often at the North, for the propagandism of all sorts of isms—this is only another and the strongest proof of the immense power it exercises upon public opinion—by drawing it into a focus and directing its rays all upon one point. The press here never heartily enters into anything, unless it be some purely political chimera. It generally either kills off all other things by faint praise, or by giving it a cold shoulder.

We once had a State Agricultural Society. We killed it by want of concert—by arraying simply distinguished names about it—by simple parade and resolutions—by shadows without substance.—There was no confidence in the thing's being a *bona fide* reality; it was a humbug, and the press had much to do in making it such. The press is responsible for much of the apathy of our people upon agricultural reform. For proof, look at its columns—some out of the way corner, generally appropriated to a selection from a Northern paper, not adopted to our climate, or some shilly-shally communication about the first bloom and first boll—the weather and the crops—form the staple of most of the agricultural matter of our newspapers.

The *Mercury*—the leading paper of the State—rarely ever has a line upon the subject, and the others not much better.—How different has been the course of our sister State, Georgia. We find the fairs of her State Agricultural Society attended by thousands of her own citizens, as well as citizens of all the adjoining States. And so great are the advantages arising from the exhibitions, that we find cities bidding against each other for the honor of being the place of exhibition, from five to ten thousand dollars. At these fairs you may see all sorts of agricultural implements, all kinds of grains and grasses, all manure, of domestic manufactures and all the improved breeds of animals. You are thrown with gentlemen of intelligence, of practical knowledge, of science; you hear the merits of everything discussed and can judge for yourselves by ocular by demonstration. You make new friends, new acquaintances—contract new alliances, imbibe new opinions—expand your heart as well as

your intellect—come to the conclusion that you live in a great country, in a wonderful age, under a glorious free government—go home with your pocket full of new seeds some clever fellows have given you, and a head full of new ideas that you intend to work up leisurely at your own home.

From the Register.

Guano.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Seeing in your valuable Journal that the article of Guano as a manure or fertilizer is attracting some attention and likely to become a favorable auxiliary to our worn out land, I offer you the annexed remarks in reference to this acknowledged fertilizer.

Not long since I had the opportunity of conversing on the subject with a gentleman, well acquainted with the article, and has been engaged in the trade, taking it from the original deposit. He states that it can be obtained in any quantity on the island, which is some miles in breadth, and two or two and a half in length, on which Island there are three deposits, or three different kinds, all differing in quality, and that of the three that there are gathered from North Island, the most pure can be tested in the following manner, viz:—Taking a tablespoonful of the powder or dust putting it in a tumbler of water, in which it will dissolve, and if the pure Peruvian or North Island Guano, it will leave no sediment but small particles of the egg which process is by straining through a thin cloth, all others will leave small particles and sand after it is stained. On information obtained with the use of it in England, where it has been used for some years, it appears, that after the application of it to a piece of land for a few years, if you drop or quit it, the land becomes almost valueless for agricultural purposes.

The Island is the property of a firm in London by charter from the Peruvian Government, through whom only a purchase can be made at so much per ton of 20 hundred ranging from £8 to 9 per ton the purest kind, the freight to Europe seldom less than £8 per ton, and a fraction less to American ports.

The mode of application in England is to dissolve it in water, take your water-pot or vessel, and pour it in the hill or drill as you may want to apply it. The Island is at the bottom a solid rock, and has been dug down to the depth of an hundred and sixty feet and at that depth, the egg of the bird has been found whole and unbroken. This pile or heap of matter is the manure

excrement of a bird of singular kind, it being half fish and half fowl, and at the discovery of the Island so numerous were they that you had to kick them out of your way. They were so numerous that the appearance of the Island was that of a dark cloud. Their habit of living was part of the time on land, and part in the water, and as it is likely to become in general use in this old worn country, would it not be well to form an association of persons, and delegate an agent for the purpose of an arrangement in England, whereby they could have it delivered in such quantity as they might want it, say January and February—for corn and cotton, a bushel of Guano to the acre—and in September and October for wheat and small grain. Such an arrangement would insure the article in its greatest purity, and at one expense, that of the freight, as it can by that mode be laid down in Charleston, at a cost of forty-four or forty-five dollars per ton, of twenty-two hundred and forty pounds, and that clear of adulteration, as I am told that amongst other matters, that it is of interest to the trader.

Guano from any of the other points is far inferior to the "North Island Guano" and another great item to the Southern planter, would be a certain amount creating a direct trade or exchange of commodity.

Not being a public writer or character, I hand you this, should you think it worth a place, if not, return it to me at your convenience,

Blight of Pear Trees.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Having seen from time to time, in your valuable paper, enquiries in relation to the pathology and remedies for the disease known by the names of Fire Blight, Frozen sap Blight, &c., I have thought proper to trespass upon your columns, by giving my observations upon this malady, if, on perusal, you find them worthy the attention of your readers.

Having lost many pear trees for several years past, I have bestowed much attention to the subject, and the following is the result:

I am satisfied the disease is caused by an insect, who punctures the bark on the trunk and larger limbs at those points, where it is changing from the smooth to the rough state. The first appearance of the disease is in the form of a dark spot on the bark, as though a small portion of gunpowder had been burned there. If not arrested, this spot continues to enlarge, the bark sinks down to the wood,

and in time, is surrounded with a crack or seam which separates it from the healthy part. So soon as this spot occupies any considerable portion of the trunk or limb, the leaves upon the ends of the twigs turn black and die, as does also, more or less of the diseased limb or twig itself. This latter manifestation is entirely sympathetic, being caused by the virus being carried to that part by the ascending sap from the diseased part below, as is shown by the leaves dying uniformly upon the same side of the tree that is diseased below. Hence it follows, and experience bears me out, that whenever the leaves commence to die, the bark upon the trunk or larger limbs is somewhere diseased. This may be set down as a certainty, and even when the tree refuses to grow, you will be almost certain to find the small plague spots upon it. I have frequently found them not larger than a pea, when the general health of the tree was affected only so as to stop growing. On cutting into the small spots, the bark is discolored and dark, with two punctures generally about one eighth of an inch apart, and by the side of each other; occasionally, there is but a single puncture that does not reach down in the early stage to the cambium or wood, but reaches only into the cellular integument; if this affected part is removed with a knife, the wound immediately heals over, and the health of the tree is restored. I have, within two years past, cut the bark from young pear trees nearly to half the circumference of the trunk, and uniformly with good results; in fact I have not lost but one tree since I have adopted this course of treatment. When the disease has progressed so far that the leaves and small twigs have turned black, I consider the case hopeless; because it must have affected the trunk or limb too far to recover. Cutting off the affected leaves and twigs does no good whatever, as the impregnated sap is carried to some other portion, which in like manner, dies.

The remedy is, to cut away with a sharp knife, the diseased bark wherever you can discover the dark colored spots before described. If you can remove all the discolored portion without injuring the liber or inner coat of the bark, so much the better, as the wound sooner heals; but should it be necessary to go down entirely to the wood, and on all sides to the healthy bark, do so, without fear; for unless this is done, it does little, if any good. I have an English Jargonelle which has been attacked five or six times, and which I have so often saved by using the knife

upon the trunk. This tree has a soft, thick bark, as also the D'Anjouleme and some others which makes them peculiarly liable to attack. I am now watching to discover the insect who perpetrates the mischief, if possible, as I think is about puncturing the trees.

I have seen for a few days past, a green insect about a half-inch in length, eating the leaves of the pear trees. It belongs to the grasshopper tribe, as he springs from branch to branch very nimbly, and takes especial pleasure in hiding behind the twig on which he is setting, whenever you approach too near. He is a real artful dodger, and not easily caught; but he may not be the culprit, yet good may result by keeping a wary eye upon him, and his conduct is very suspicious.

I have never seen apple trees attacked with this disease, although they are liable to exhibit the same symptoms as do pear trees, viz: the dying of the terminal twigs; but it is caused by another disease which may be described at another time.

To those cultivating pears, I would say examine the trunks and larger limbs about three times in the course of the season; say, Spring, Summer and beginning of Autumn; and as before directed, cut away all the diseased and discolored spots. A little Shellac varnish applied to the wound will cause it to heal more readily than if left naked. Truly yours, &c.

J. VAN BUREN.

Gloaming Cottage, Clarksville, Ga.

Reports of the Newberry Agricultural Society.

COTTON CULTURE.

I do not deem myself entirely competent to meet the views of this intelligent Society and community, but feeling it incumbent on me as Chairman of this Committee, to give my views—hoping they may be of some service in the promotion of our great work—and as I know, by sad experience, that those who are eminently competent to instruct, will not, pen in hand, with a willing mind, do the work; and as an ordinary hand, willing to do, is better than none, I very willingly will do what my experience and ability will admit. Any man who desires to succeed at any pursuit, should know in the outset that his undivided time, labor, attention and mind should be given to it. In the next place, he will find that performing all his labor in a workmanlike manner, will much expedite his future labor. I, therefore, would make it an imperative duty on every young planter, at least, to commence with a determination to be devoted to his

profession, and not suffer himself to be drawn off from a single duty for the first time. I would also make it a rule of his action to never allow himself to be in a hurry. "Make haste slowly" is the substance of an Italian proverb that is well suited to the planter. He should "make haste" to duly perform his labor, but do it "slowly," so it shall be done well. In other words, never hurry over his work so as to slight it. If a cotton crop is put in as it should be, the planter will find nearly one-half his labor performed, especially with a good team and good implements. I am satisfied ten or twelve acres may be more easily cultivated than six or seven, by putting the land in good tilth before planting a seed. I advise the land be thoroughly plowed; if a deep, heavy subsoil, plow as deep as the team can draw the plow. If corn land, to be planted in cotton, break up as early as the season will admit, in large beds of forty to fifty feet or more, the larger the better, on account of water furrows, when the land is laid off to rows for planting. Then, whether in land that was in cotton or corn, lay off rows early in March with a shovel plow, and to this throw two furrows, to remain until planting time, when the entire row is to be bedded up, leaving water furrows well opened out.

On level land these rows ought to be precisely straight—on rolling land the curve should be as regular as the land will admit. By commencing two or three days before the day set for planting, and keeping a portion of plows breaking out before planters, there will be a gain, which I explain thus: The first three furrows from the centre of the bed should be thrown up long enough before planting, so as to admit of settling down, becoming somewhat compressed by rain—the young cotton growing off quicker on tolerably firm land than on very light land—and the last furrows being thrown up when planting seed, will give the cotton plant an even start with the grass and weeds. Run an iron tooth harrow on the bed before you open for the seed, and if the bed be not pulverized by once running the harrow, do it again. Then use an opener that opens out a furrow about two or three inches wide and three-quarters deep, and at the time compresses the bottom of furrow; cover with a board attached to a shovel plow, or a block of wood, so constructed as to brush off a part of the light earth, and level top of the ridge. This may seem to be a great deal of labor, but you will find a rich reward in the end.

Select your cotton seed. I have long been convinced of the importance of selecting cotton seed to plant, and believe it to be quite as important as selecting seed corn and others. We all know that cotton is continually degenerating, and that new kinds, and even different species, are continually making their appearance in the old stock, hence the necessity for selecting the pure seed. Now, to prove this, you need only go into a cotton field, and you may often find a Nankeen cotton. Well, how did it come there? there were none of the seed of that cotton planted, and so it must have come from the other cotton. Now, take this Nankeen cotton, pick out the seed and plant them the next year, and you will have mostly Nankeen cotton, but there will be some among it as pure white as you ever saw, although there was not a single seed of white cotton planted.

Now if this be true, (and I presume no one acquainted with the cotton plant will deny it,) how important is it, that every man, who makes a business of raising cotton, pay attention to selecting his seed? What kind of corn would a man raise, if he were to go into his crib and gather promiscuously, just as he came to it, shell and plant it—long ears, short ones, rotten corn and all? Just in the same way acts the man who plants his cotton seed without paying any attention to them. You may contend that selecting seed corn is essential in order to raise a good kind, and keep the sort that suits best. If this rule will apply to corn, why will it not apply, with equal force, to cotton? By going into the cotton patch and examining different stalks of cotton, you will readily discover the difference in them. On some you will perceive the locks hanging out their full length, having barely sufficient staple to hold them together, and you may see every seed in the boll. If you will examine the seed, you will find them to be the black or green seed. Look at another stalk, and in all probability you will find one whose bolls are full and plump, each lock in its place, and the boll nearly as round as an apple, being as different from the other as possible to imagine. Examine the seed of this, and you will find them to be the white seed, which is the only pure seed. Now, in order to have your whole stock of these seed, make it your business to pick the white seed only for planting. Pursue this plan every year, and by this means you will have pure seed to plant every crop, and your cotton will be improved in quantity and quality, and I doubt not you will be amply rewarded for your trouble. And I should think it would afford any planter more real satisfaction to know he had improved his old stock of cotton and made it good, than to pay occasionally to be humbugged by some unprincipled fellow.—For, every year or two, some one has some

new sort of cotton, and puts an extravagant price upon the seed, sells them to the farmer as something extra, and many of them, when tried, prove to be worthless. It is high time for farmers to wake up and rid themselves of these impositions.

In cultivating the cotton crop, the same rules will apply as those of corn, &c. Cultivate well, early and rapidly, keeping down the weeds and grass. Thin to a stand as early as practicable. If stiff, heavy soils, plow deep and frequent; this will admit the roots to spread and extend freely. Light and porous soils neither require so frequent or deep tilling. The width of rows and distance of plants on the bed, depend entirely upon strength of the soil, and must be regulated by the planter who can best judge of his lands. Planting too much cotton is an error which most planters commit. True a large portion of the civilized world is, to a great degree, dependent on us for cotton, and, therefore, with proper prudence, we may safely calculate on fair remunerative prices for all the cotton we can consistently grow—a strong inducement for overplanting.

The late advance in all agricultural products, are blessings to the agriculturist, if properly appreciated and made use of; but if improperly used, will terminate in the end as disastrous as the times of 1836 and '37. We should continue steadily in our pursuits, and, with industry and economy, a rich reward is in store for all who are discreet. Our duties are otherwise: We have laborers, animals of various kinds, as well as fellow-beings in other occupations, dependent on us for the greatest necessity of life—their daily bread; hence we should not let the present advance price of cotton drive us from the culture of breadstuffs in abundance.

What has been the result of our large crops of cotton for years past? Have they enriched us? Have they made us independent? No. Corn has always found a ready market with the planters themselves and as for meat, Tennessee and Kentucky have been our hog-pens. Millions of dollars are annually taken from us for meat alone; and I ask if this is not wrong, and impoverishing our country and ourselves to the amount expended in this wanton folly, which, in itself, should make us blush when we are ranked, or desire to be called, good planters.

Under such circumstances, how can we expect to be prosperous and independent? How are we to expect to enrich our country, the imports far exceed the exports?

Plant less cotton and more breadstuffs, raise your horses, mules and hogs, improve your lands, and my word for it you will be more independent, richer and happier in the end.

R. STEWART, *Chm'n.*

Timothy Grass—Its Culture &c.

Mr. Editor:—As I have been travelling through Tennessee, as well as other States, I have been a close observer of men and things; and I have seen so little *Timothy Meadow* in Tennessee, that I have often thought what can be the reason. Don't

they know the value of it, or do they understand how it should be managed?

Now, I know that every man, to be successful, must have learning, and that none of us know anything but what we have learned in some way, and as I have been intimately acquainted with the management of Timothy grass for the last 45 years, I will briefly state the process that should be observed in its culture: First, the quantity of seed required—one peck to three acres is sufficient. Secondly, the time to sow—when you sow your turnip seed if you sow in new ground; then you will have a good crop of seed the next summer, or if you chose you can sow in September with your wheat. Should you prefer to sow with oats, after harrowing your oat ground sow your timothy seed, then harrow or brush lightly. Never mow your timothy until the seed is maturing. Timothy meadows should never be pastured until the first white frost, then you may pasture until the first of March—not sheep and geese and hogs, but cattle and horses. Meadows thus managed will endure for a term of years. I know many in Virginia that have never been renewed since my earliest recollection. I have often been told that timothy won't do well in Tennessee; so it has been said of clover and other grass—and so it seemed when I came to Roane county four years ago. But I find that clover does better here than it did in Western Virginia; and blue-grass will do well here if it has a fair trial. Any man that wants to improve his land will find timothy preferable to herds grass; it will make a much better sod, and as for the hay, timothy is 50 per cent. the best—easiest to mow and not so easy to be injured by a shower. That man who won't try to improve his land is not as intelligent as he should be. From my late observation of the promising wheat fields I have come to the conclusion that the day is not far distant when no man who is a farmer will sow wheat on any ground but clover or sod land.—*Loudon (Tenn.) Free Press.*

About Long Cotton.

We learn that the past season has been one of unexampled prosperity to the planters of our State. The great staple of East Florida is Sea Island, or Long Staple Cotton.

The producing region of this species of Cotton is confined to Sea Islands, along the coast of Carolina, Georgia, and the Peninsula of Florida. The Islands on the coast produce the finest description of cot-

ton known, and this cotton the present season has brought as high as eighty cents per pound; the land producing these fine cottons has been in cultivation over one hundred years, and its fertility is now maintained by the free application of marsh mud and marsh grass, taken from the tide water creeks, and the application of about twelve bushels of salt to the acre, putting about one quart of salt to the task row. The finest cottons are principally used in France to mix with silk fabrics.

The next quality of long staple is the cotton raised in the Peninsula of Florida, known in the market as Florida cotton. The whole Peninsula of Florida produces this cotton, which has sold in the market the present season at from 39 to 48 cents per pound, according to quality. The pine lands improved by cowpenning make fine crops, but the best description of soil is considered the grey hammock, which has rather a sandy appearance.

The product on pine lands is from 500 to 1000 pounds seed cotton to the acre, and the hammocks from 1000 to 2000 pounds per acre; this cotton will make about 250 pounds of clean cotton to the 1000 pounds of seed cotton, which at 40 cents per pound would make the pine lands yield fifty to one hundred dollars per acre, and hammock from one to two hundred dollars per acre. The crop of the present season would fully sustain this statement, as the complaint has been universally made that much more cotton had been planted than they could possibly pick out.

These fine cottons were formerly ginned out by a hand gin, in order to avoid injury to the staple, which would be destroyed by the use of the saw gin used in preparing the short staple cotton; subsequently roller gins were employed, worked by horse power, recently the McCarthy gin is preferred to all others as best preserving the length of the staple and giving the cotton a smooth, carded appearance.

The disadvantages of raising long cotton are its lesser product, its requiring peculiar soil, its greater difficulty in gathering, and its more expensive ginning.

St. Augustine (Fla.) Ancient City.

GUANO ON WHEAT.—The Fredericksburg Herald states that the effects of Guano are quite visible on several crops of wheat between that city and Spotsylvania Court House. Land that heretofore was scarcely worth the seeding, looks as though twenty to twenty-five bushels might be gathered the approaching harvest.



The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. IV., No. 10. : : : October, 1853.

The Farmer and Planter.

WILL ITS OLD FRIENDS SUSTAIN OR ABANDON IT.

We have now entered upon the fourth quarter of the 4th volume. Two more numbers closes the volume of 1853, and possibly all further relationship between the writer, as editor, and his kind patrons. We say, *possibly*—it is for them to say yea or nay. If yea, say so, friends of the Farmer and Planter. If nay, then show your hands—prove your faith by your works—let us hear from you at your earliest convenience. We shall be under the necessity of procuring assistance in the editorial department of our paper, if continued, which, with some improvements we design making, will necessarily involve additional expense, requiring a corresponding addition to our present subscription list, for with our present list we assure you we are poorly enough paid for our services. The foolish prejudice against book farming is rapidly giving way in the South. Agricultural papers are becoming yearly more popular. They are much more so now than when we commenced our journal, the only one then in our State. We have now another, a very respectable neighbor near us, yet we would venture that each of us have more subscribers than we commenced with, and still there is room enough even in our own State for both. We are quite sure that not one-tenth of those in the State who should be subscribers to an agricultural paper are such. And hence we do believe that with a very little exertion each one of our subscribers can procure the name of at least one new subscriber for the year 1854. Will you try, friends. If so, “do it promptly,” by the first of December, at farthest, that we may know and act accordingly. We want no money on the new volume until the first number has been received by our subscribers.

To our numerous friends in other States than our own who have supported us many of them from the commencement of our enterprise, we feel under especial obligations. We have strong faith in their constancy, and confidently calculate on their continued support to the end of our journey.

Editorial Courtesy.

Our thanks are due and hereby tendered to our brethren of the press who have extended our notice for an assistant Editor of the Farmer

and Planter. Will others with whom we exchange do a like favor! Our grateful acknowledgments are alike due to our friends for their kind notices of our feeble efforts in getting up and thus far sustaining a journal for the promotion and advancement of the agricultural and other interests of the South at a time when but few would have ventured on such enterprise, as well as for their kind words of encouragement which not only meet us in the columns of our exchanges, but much more frequently in the private letters of our subscribers. We again thank you all, kind friends, for your good will. It is with you, however, the latter, especially, to say whether we shall continue our labors, or resign our tools into more able, if not more devoted, hands.

Bakewell Sheep.

Our thanks are hereby tendered to Colonel JOHN D. WILLIAMS, of Laurens District, for a highly prized present of a fine buck lamb of the above breed. Mr. JOHN MAXWELL desires us to make acknowledgments also, for a like favor, which came with ours safely to hand by way of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad to Anderson C. H. Col. WILLIAMS is one of our most successful stock raisers, as will appear from an interesting account of his farm given us by our friend, Major SIMPSON, and which we take great pleasure in publishing in our present number. Indeed, not only as a stock raiser but in every branch of business to which the Colonel has devoted attention he seems to occupy a most conspicuous station among our best farmers and planters of the up-country. Col. WILLIAMS has, we understand, with his characteristic liberality, presented several of our neighbors with a sack each of winter oats, which he is in the habit of sowing in the fall of the year, and which have become so acclimated as to be able to withstand our severest winters. We are gratified to find we have such oats in our county, knowing, as we do, that they are very superior in weight of grain to all spring-sown oats.

The following account of the Bakewell sheep, taken from the Journal of the New York State Agricultural Society will no doubt interest many of our readers. A neighbor of ours, Col. J. T. SLOAN, informs us he saw, at the World's Fair at New York, recently, the same sheep, as we have no doubt, from his description, that are here described. He offered one dollar for a single roll from the back of one of them, which was refused by the owner, who said he had refused three dollars for a roll. (This notice was intended for the September number, but crowded out.)

LARGE SHEEP.—Aaron Riley, Esq., Aurora, Erie county, New York, sends us three rolls of wool, taken from a Bakewell ewe, four years old, belonging to James Bicknell of that town, 32 inches in length. Mr. Riley says, “Mr. Bicknell has 200 sheep of the Bakewell breed, has now three ewes, one of them two years old, one of them four years old, and the other seven;

their average weight will probably exceed three hundred pounds each, neither having been weighed for some time; the four years old weighed last season 330 pounds; she has a most beautiful snow white fleece, which hangs in over ten thousand rolls, as naturally grown with an appearance as though it came from the machine. From this sheep I saw taken to-day the enclosed three rolls, thirty-two inches in length. As a matter of curiosity, I put a cord around her, and to my surprise she girted around the body and wool, near the fore legs, with a reasonably tight line not pressing the wool nine feet and three inches. The seven year old sheep has, as counted, eight thousand two hundred similar rolls, with an average length of from 26 to 28 inches. The two years old is of a more beautiful white; her wool is of great length, but does not seem to grow in rolls as the others. These sheep Mr. Bicknell will have on exhibition at the World's Fair in New York in May or June next.

Enquiries and Answers.

WALNUT HILL, Ga., Sept. 4th, 1853.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I am very anxious to procure some Herds Grass seed. Can you procure them for me, or inform me where I can get them. I would be glad to have a pint or so of Red Clover seed, also. If you can get the grass seed, direct me as to the manner of sowing, kind of land, time to cut, and management in general.

I enclose you a sprig of grass; can you tell me anything about it? Does history record any instance of its death? I have always heard it called Bermuda, but it is not the *Simon Pure*.

By attention to the above, you will oblige yours,
J. R. EARLE.

ANSWER. We have no seed on hand at present—presume, however, you can procure them from WM. HAINES, Jr., of Augusta, or from the MESSRS. LANDRETH's seed store in Charleston. If the latter charges you for the seed as they did us recently for Millet seed (7½ dollars per bushel) you are right sure to be fleeced if you send to them. Neither of the firms advertise with us, we consequently cannot say what kind of seed they keep on hand. R. SINCLAIR, Jr., of Baltimore, keeps on hand seeds of every description, and you may rely on him to send you good seed, and probably at as low rates as you can procure them elsewhere.

The grass you send us we take to be the Bermuda Joint Grass, a first cousin, probably, to the “Bermuda;” for, as the fellow said, in describing a Jack, in comparing him to a Mule, “It is exactly like it, only a little more so.” We are well acquainted with the Joint Grass, have rather more of it than is desirable growing on our farm. Though it is a fine grazing grass, and one that every farmer might do well to possess, if it could be kept in due bounds. Yet it is a great pest in lands under cultivation.—We are not aware that “history does record any instance of its death.”

Enquiries and Answers.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I regret very much that it was not in my power to accept the kind invitation you gave me to visit you at the time when your wheat and clover were in their most flourishing state. As I could not do so in due time, and still feel considerable interest in knowing the result of your experiment with the Hunter Wheat, will you oblige me by giving

me the result through your paper, or privately, as may suit your convenience. If the clover has flourished with you the past dry season, I think we can have nothing to fear in the form of dry weather. The great fear with a number of persons with whom I have conversed on the subject of clover, is, that our climate is too warm. Has your clover stood the effects of the heat of the present summer? R.

Answer to the above.—We did not realize the yield from the Hunter Wheat that appearances led us to anticipate. (See our remarks in the May number.) It was fair, however, considering the time the seed was sown (5th of January.) The lot contains eight-tenths of an acre, over one-half of which we sowed the "Hunter," and on the other half the Alabama wheat, one bushel of each, which was a heavy seeding, but not too heavy on such land, and the season being too far advanced to allow of much, if any, tillering, or spreading of the plants. And notwithstanding the thick stand, the wheat grew to an unusual height, which is apt to be the case with all late sown grain—producing more fodder than grain. The wheat ripened in good time to escape the rust, and was harvested about the time—a day or two before—we finished cutting our red May wheat. The yield of good plump grain was, of Hunter, $7\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, equal to about $18\frac{3}{4}$ bushels per acre, and the Alabama 7 bushels, equal to $17\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre.

Clover.—Our clover has withstood the scathing effects of the drouth admirably, as you will conclude when we say to you that previous to the setting in of the dry weather it yielded us a heavy cutting, and was progressing towards a second crop when we were compelled to turn our stock on it, in consequence of the scarcity of other grazing in our pastures. The stock soon made a "case" of it, to every appearance, and we had, though with strong faith, almost come to the conclusion it was a "failery," as our old friend W. of Greenville used to say. But not so; no sooner did the rains commence than it again began to peep from its mother earth, and now (Sept. 10th.) it is almost again ready for the scythe. And hence we again say, and probably for the ninety-ninth time, that clover can be grown, and profitably grown, at the South, the predictions and arguments of croakers and anti-book farmers to the contrary notwithstanding and nevertheless.

Millet.—We will here say, friend R., we have hereafter another report to make to you on the product of the lot on which the wheat grew, it being now in Millet, about waist high, and as thick as it can well stand on the ground. We design cutting it for hay when it is fully in head. With this and a large variety of Millet now in head, (the highest from 10 to 12 feet,) the seed sent by a friend from Clarksville, Georgia, added to our corn thickly drilled for fodder, we have a most flattering prospect for provender for our stock the next winter; and it is well it is so, for owing to the everlasting rains—we now have a freshet in progress—we fear we shall make neither corn or fodder from our low lands, the heretofore main dependence.

Milk Sick.

ARBEVILLE C. H. August 22 1853.

MR. SRS. EDITORS:—Enclosed you will find two dollars, which please place to my credit for subscription to the Farmer and Planter. I do not recollect how my account stands, but presume that your books will show.

I am glad to say, that in my humble judgment, the ability and interest of your journal increases with each number, and if the farmers of South Carolina were but true to their own best interests, it would at once be placed beyond all controversy.

The articles on "Milk Sick," contained in August number, have been, to me, full of interest and information. My knowledge on the subject, as gained from many and very minute inquiries of various persons living among the mountains of this State and North Carolina, is, in almost every particular, confirmatory of Col. Sloan's account. I have never met with but one physician who had seen a case of it. He professed to cure it with large doses of castor oil, assisted by stimulating injections. I found a very prevalent opinion, though I believe an erroneous one, was, that the disease was caused by some sort of exhalation from lead ore.

But enough. I hope you will excuse this digression from what was intended exclusively for a business letter.

Enclosed you will also find a P. O. Stamp. Be so good as to send me a copy of A. Beck's Almanac. In haste, yours very respectfully,

J. J. W.

REMARKS.—Our respected friend Dr. W. will, we trust, excuse us for publishing his letter touching a subject we are desirous of drawing the attention of our subscribers to, and one which but few seem to know or think much about. Whenever our Blue Ridge Railroad gets under way, the facilities of getting infected beef, butter, cheese, and even milk, to our markets, will be greatly increased, and hence the greater necessity for being on our guard.

We understand recently that Col. Sloan has been blamed for the article in our August number, giving symptoms, &c., of the milk sick disease. Col. S. wrote the article at our request, and probably without knowing we intended publishing it, which we did on our own responsibility. If any are offended, we presume it is only those who have been guilty—and we trust there are few such—of selling poisonous butter, cheese, &c., and it was only against such that our caution was intended to operate. An honest man is not to be feared, live where he may. [Eds.]

For the Farmer and Planter. Cotton-Bed Opener.

MESRS. EDITORS:—I am but a small cotton planter, and with the little crop I plant I have been much troubled in getting a suitable plow for the purpose of opening the beds. Last spring I discovered a plan for one, which I found answered the purpose completely. Should you, after becoming acquainted with the form of it, think that it can be used with any advantage by your many subscribers, you are at liberty to give it a place in your paper.

It is made on the following plan: Get a suitable tree, with a limb growing out nearly straight from the body, cut the body off long enough to make the foot piece of a common shovel plow stock, and the limb twenty inches long. The second piece is the beam, to be the same length and size of the common shovel stock. Third, the handles the same. Fourth, a piece three-quarters of an inch thick, three inches wide, and

long enough to go through the twenty inch piece near its forward end, and up through the beam. Fifth, a brace to pass through the foot end beam. The twenty-inch piece should be made with a sharp edge at the bottom, and about three inches on top; and the end should be made in a wedge like shape. This plow, when well made, will pass over manure without drawing any of it out. Nor will it draw the bed down, so as to injure it. I also find it to answer an excellent purpose in opening turnip beds. To work with ease to the plowman, it is necessary to have the horse which draws it well trained to walk on the top of the bed. In order that you may better understand the form of the plow, I enclose you the best likeness of it that my drawing ingenuity will allow me to make.

VIRGINIAN.

REMARKS.—Our old friend "Virginian" will accept our thanks for the above description of his cotton-bed opener. We have one in use similarly constructed, which works well, leaving an open, smooth furrow, in which to drop the seed. We have a contrivance for covering, also, in which we substitute in place of the sliding portion that opens the furrow, a block holted out on the under side in the form of a A, the open end forward. This covers neatly, leaving the bed somewhat pressed down and smooth on top.

We regret that we are not prepared to give a cut representing the implement as sent us by our correspondent.—[Eds.]

Remedies for Diarrhoea.—A subscriber has handed us the following remedies for this very prostrating disease. We know nothing of their efficacy, but give them with the hope that they may alleviate the sufferings of some. 1st. Take a pint of the best 4th proof Cogniac Brandy—put into it as much gum of camphor as it will dissolve—take ten drops of this solution and ten drops of Laudanum in a table spoon-full of strong spice tea, one dose every hour—this is the dose for an adult—for a child it should be somewhat less.

2d. Take a half-pint of good apple vinegar—put with it one table spoon-full of common salt, and stir till it is dissolved. Take one half of this at the first dose. In three hours take one-third of the remainder, and repeat the dose every three hours. Under either prescription, the patient's diet should be confined to boiled milk thickened with flour and a little pounded spice. Of this eat often and but sparingly. The milk should be taken at about blood-heat.

We repeat that we know nothing of these remedies, but think they may be serviceable. We should recommend, however, that they be taken under proper medical advice.—*Edgefield Advertiser.*

No poultice has ever been discovered to draw out man's virtues so fully as the sod that covers his grave.

Mr. A. F. Lewis' Farm.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I don't know when I have been more pleased than I was with the visit we made a few evenings ago to the house of your esteemed friend, and fellow citizen, Mr. A. F. Lewis, who resides $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Pendleton. I had promised myself to go out and see his fine stock, and a famous grape vine, of which I had heard a good deal, and having done so in company with Gen. GILLAM, Col. TAYLOR, and yourself, and finding you all agreed with me in my estimation of his stock, &c., I can speak more confidently of it, without being accused of flattery or exaggeration. And whenever I see a farmer who endeavors to make farming what it ought to be, viz: a *profitable enjoyment*, I think his example should be laid before the public on all occasions, and I hope our friend Mr. Lewis will pardon the liberty I take in speaking of his affairs.

His farm is situated on the Eastern bank of Seneca river, in full view of Fort Hill, and the residence of the late lamented J. C. CALHOUN, and commands one of the finest mountain prospects I have seen in this neighborhood.

We were received by Mr. Lewis with that whole-souled and genuine hospitality, which I sometimes think is only to be found in the *true-hearted farmer at home*, and treated to a most delicious bait of water-melons and grapes. One of the water-mellons weighed about 40 pounds, and had a taste that the granulated nectar of the gods would hardly have surpassed.—His grapes were even more delicious. I have not seen such any where this season, except at Mr. CALVIN HALL'S, in your village, who has a Hamburg grape which many would prefer on account of its size and flavor to the Herbermont Maderia, which Mr. Lewis has; but Mr. Lewis has a vine which surpasses any thing in point of luxuriance I have ever seen, and is well worth a ride to his house to see. He has trained it horizontally on a trussel some 5 or 6 feet high, two branches running in one direction from the main trunk, and two the opposite direction, and in six years, each pair of runners has attained the incredible length of about 70 feet; the entire vine extending along his garden walks the distance of 140 feet, nearly three-fourths of which was covered with grapes. How he managed to obtain such a growth in so short a time was the mystery to us, but he informed us that his better-half (in whom, bye-the-bye, Mr. Lewis, I take it, is

"As blest as man can be,")

was entitled to all the credit for that. She

had all the dish water and soap suds that otherwise would have been wasted, thrown over it and around the roots; and whenever any of the poultry died about the yard, she had it taken and buried near the roots of the vine, and hence its extraordinary luxuriance. This was a new idea to me, but very reasonable, for it is well known that any thing that will generate carbon is good manure. Mr. L. had other vines in his garden but this is sufficient to show how easy it is to have any quantity of fine fruit. A very few vines of this kind would furnish an ample supply of grapes for any family.

The next thing that attracted our attention was a lot of 33 fattening hogs, which Mr. L. had raised. They were eighteen months old, a mixture of the Berkshire and common stock. They were the finest I have seen this season, and we all agreed that by the time they were fat enough to kill, they would average 250 pounds.—They were in fine order although they had been running in the pasture and not fed on corn at all.

We then went to the cow yard, and for half an hour or more, amid the lowing of cows and bleating of calves, for it was about sundown, we feasted our eyes on a lot of as fine milk cows (some 14 in number) as it has been my good fortune to see in many a day, considering they were raised by Mr. L. from a mixture of the common stock with the Durham. He has none of the full blood Durham, or Devon, or any thing else; but I think he has proven to a demonstration that a mixture is preferable to the full blood for stocking our farms in this country, as a general thing, from the fact that the blooded cattle require more care and attention than the majority of our farmers can give them, and I have but very little doubt, from what Mr. L. says, that our native grasses do not suit the full blood as well as they do the common or mixed stock.

Mr. Lewis has what every farmer ought to have in his cow yard, viz: a large scaffold of poles on posts about five feet from the ground, covered eight or ten feet thick with wheat straw, and any length that the quantity of straw he may have will make it. The straw is preserved while the cattle are protected from the August and September rains and cold during the winter, and can eat of the straw as they please, none of which is lost, as it all goes to increase the manure pile. The ground under the shelter should be slightly elevated, so the water cannot wash under and keep it wet, and it should be cleaned out and piled up with dry straw occasionally.

We all regretted that we did not have time to walk over Mr. L.'s farm. We saw one cotton field near the house, which Gen. GILLAM, who is an extensive cotton planter, said was the best cotton he had seen this year, for the land, and although the land did not look like it was rich, Gen. G. thought it would produce 800 pounds to the acre this year, which shows that there is a good deal in cultivating cotton, as well as in having good land. From what we did see, I came to the conclusion that Mr. Lewis was a farmer as ought to be a farmer. He devotes his whole attention to it—has no overseer. His crop is properly managed, his stock looked after and cared for, and the fruit and melons to which he treated us, gave convincing proof that none of those little luxuries which make home comfortable and happy are neglected, by Mr. Lewis, while, above all, and which is no doubt the prime and moving cause or *reason* of all this care and attention, the cheerful smiles of an affectionate, industrious and confiding wife, lend their enchantment to his pleasant home, and all combine to throw around his rural mansion a charm of sweetness and an air of satisfaction that makes a professional man, who lives in a village or city, and has to buy every thing he consumes, feel like he was "*no whar*," and had nothing to live on, and long for the day to come when he will be comfortably situated on a farm, luxuriating on all the comforts of which Mr. Lewis can boast. Yours, &c., W.

Pendleton, S. C., Sept. 4, 1853.

Cure for the Croup.—Dr. Forbes, of Boston, relates, in a late number of the *Medical Journal*, a case in which a severe attack of croup was cured by the application of sponges, wrung out of hot water, to the throat, together with water treatment, which he describes as follows:

"Soon after making the first application of sponges to the throat, I wrapped the child in a woolen blanket, wrung out of warm water, as a substitute for a warm bath, and gave twenty drops of the wine of antimony in a little sweetened water, which she swallowed with difficulty. I persevered in the application of the hot, moist sponges for an hour, when the child was so much relieved that I ventured to leave it.

"These applications were continued through the night, and in the morning the child was well."

It will never do to trifle with this terrible disease. The quicker the remedies are applied the better. Instead of antimony, we would recommend small quantities of alum water, given every ten or fifteen minutes, until the child vomits.